

REMARKS

Claims 11-19 and 21-31 were previously pending in the application. Claims 11-19 and 21-31 remain unchanged. Claims 11 and 21 are independent.

Allowed Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication that claims 21-30 are allowed.

The Claimed Invention

An exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention, as recited by, for example, independent claim 11, is directed to a storage compartment of a refrigeration device, comprising a frame including at least two elongated arms located at a fixed distance from one another forming an intermediate space therebetween, said arms each having one end connected to a common anchoring portion that is mounted to an inner side of a door of the refrigeration device in an installed position of the storage compartment in the refrigeration device; and a removable holder for refrigerated products configured to rest on said arms, said holder engaging in a locating manner into said intermediate space, wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a common support leg from which the arms extend and a common vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms and the common vertical leg form an L-profile.

In this manner, the present invention provides a storage compartment which is at least partly removable from the refrigeration device in order to access its contents and which then can be placed quickly and conveniently back in the refrigeration device. The present invention provides a two-part structure that allows the frame to be left at its position of installation when the refrigerated-goods holder is removed so that the refrigerated-goods holder can simply be placed back on the arms again and located therein when it is no longer required outside the refrigeration device. This locating in the

intermediate space between the arms secures the refrigerated-goods holder against slippage and falling out which is especially important when the frame is mounted on the door of the refrigeration device. See, e.g., page 1, lines 19-32.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claims 11-13, 15, 17, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Becke reference (DE 9633975). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. [...] The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." M.P.E.P. § 2131.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Becke reference does not disclose the features of the claimed invention including a storage compartment of a refrigeration device, comprising a frame including at least two elongated arms located at a fixed distance from one another forming an intermediate space therebetween, said arms each having one end connected to a common anchoring portion that is mounted to an inner side of a door of the refrigeration device in an installed position of the storage compartment in the refrigeration device; and a removable holder for refrigerated products configured to rest on said arms, said holder engaging in a locating manner into said intermediate space, wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a common support leg from which the arms extend and a common vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms and the common vertical leg form an L-profile, as recited by independent claim 11.

As explained above, these features are important for providing a storage compartment which is at least partly removable from the refrigeration device in order to access its contents and which then can be placed quickly and conveniently back in the refrigeration device. The present invention provides a two-part structure that allows the

frame to be left at its position of installation when the refrigerated-goods holder is removed so that the refrigerated-goods holder can simply be placed back on the arms again and located therein when it is no longer required outside the refrigeration device. This locating in the intermediate space between the arms secures the refrigerated-goods holder against slippage and falling out which is especially important when the frame is mounted on the door of the refrigeration device. See, e.g., page 1, lines 19-32.

In the final Office Action, independent claim 11 is now rejected over Figure 1 of the Becke reference, instead of Figure 2 of the Becke reference, as applied in the previous Office Action.

Particularly, the Office Action asserts that Figure 1 of the Becke reference discloses “a frame 20 having at least two elongated arms 27 ..., said arms 27 each having one end connected to a common anchoring portion mounted to an inner side of a door of a refrigeration device, ...; wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a common support leg 26 from which the arms 27 extend and a common vertical leg 22 connected to an edge of the common support leg 26 and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms 27 and the common vertical leg 22 form an L-profile (side view).”

Contrary to the assertions in the Office Action, the Becke reference very clearly does not disclose all of the features of claim 11. Particularly, the Becke reference very clearly fails to disclose at least wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a common support leg from which the arms extend and a common vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms and the common vertical leg form an L-profile, as recited by independent claim 11.

In stark contrast to the claimed invention, and as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the Becke reference, the alleged vertical leg 22 very clearly is not a ‘common’ vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg 26, as claimed. Instead, Figure 1 of the Becke reference very clearly shows two completely separate so-called vertical legs 22 connected to ends of each of the alleged elongated arms 27.

Contrary to the assertions in the Office Action, the alleged vertical legs 22 are not connected to an edge of the common support leg 26. Rather, the individual vertical legs 22 each are connected separately to each respective elongated arm 27, not the common support leg 26.

Moreover, the Becke reference explicitly discloses a separate, individual vertical leg 22 for each elongated arm 27. Thus, the Becke reference very clearly does not disclose a 'common' vertical leg 22.

For at least these reasons, the Becke reference very clearly does not disclose wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a common support leg from which the arms extend and a common vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms and the common vertical leg form an L-profile, as recited by independent claim 11.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Becke reference in view of the Stich reference (US 4,829,653). Claims 16, 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Becke reference in view of the Faulk reference (US 4,735,470). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the applied references discloses or suggests the features of the claimed invention including a storage compartment of a refrigeration device, comprising a frame including at least two elongated arms located at a fixed distance from one another forming an intermediate space therebetween, said arms each having one end connected to a common anchoring portion that is mounted to an inner side of a door of the refrigeration device in an installed position of the storage compartment in the refrigeration device; and a removable holder for refrigerated products configured to rest on said arms, said holder engaging in a locating manner into said intermediate space, wherein the common anchoring portion of the frame includes a

common support leg from which the arms extend and a common vertical leg connected to an edge of the common support leg and extending at an angle relative thereto, and wherein the arms and the common vertical leg form an L-profile, as recited by independent claim 11.

As explained above, these features are important for providing a storage compartment which is at least partly removable from the refrigeration device in order to access its contents and which then can be placed quickly and conveniently back in the refrigeration device. The present invention provides a two-part structure that allows the frame to be left at its position of installation when the refrigerated-goods holder is removed so that the refrigerated-goods holder can simply be placed back on the arms again and located therein when it is no longer required outside the refrigeration device. This locating in the intermediate space between the arms secures the refrigerated-goods holder against slippage and falling out which is especially important when the frame is mounted on the door of the refrigeration device. See, e.g., page 1, lines 19-32.

The Stich reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Becke reference. As shown in Figure 4, the Stich reference very clearly does not teach or suggest these features. Instead, the Stick reference discloses that the arms 85 are separate from each other. The Stich reference very clearly does not disclose a common anchoring portion from which the arms 85 extend.

The Falk reference also does not remedy the deficiencies of the Becke reference.

As shown in Figure 4, the Falk reference very clearly does not teach or suggest these features. Instead, the Falk reference discloses that the arms 22 are separate from each other. The Falk reference very clearly does not disclose a common anchoring portion from which the arms 22 extend.

None of the applied references remedies the deficiencies of the Becke reference.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 11-19 and 21-31 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,

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